
Title: Fireside Tale

Author: Silent Poet

Now then milords and
ladies. Do gather 'round.

Twass a night not unlike
this one, with a full moon
and an even more full
tavern. It didst take
place in the recent past
when things were not as
they are now.

Twass a night when Talon
of the Order of Sanctus,
Molly of House of the
Gauntlet, and Baeleron,
general of the
Brotherhood of the Hand
were all in attendance to
one another. Much
boasting of the skills of
the members of their
clans/order were being
bandied about by this
august assemblage.
Lord Talon didst clear his
throat and state. Speak
not to me of the
bravery of thy soldiers. I
am willing to wager .. at
this he didst toss a red
pouch from which didst
spill much gold.. all of
this to teach thee what I
know of bravery.

Molly smiled quietly.
Baeleron didst chuckle in
that evil way of his.

Lord Talon didst then
say, "Sir Lee, come
hither."

Sir Lee didst step up
then, and didst say:

"How might I be of
service to thee, Milord

Talon."

Talon paused.. and the
bright gleam in his eyes
didst sparkle brightly.

Talon then didst say, "Sir
Lee take this simple
dagger, and go and slay
yon Lich that dost haunt
the woods of Yew."

Sir Lee didst fire off a
smart and brisk salute.
And then taking said
dagger, he didst take
leave of the tavern.

Scarcely had he left,
when Straife didst return
carrying his charred and
very dead body with one
hand clutched in a death
grip upon yon dagger.

Talon was most pleased
as he didst reach for his
money pouch as he didst
say, "And that tis
bravery."

Molly didst calmly place a
hand upon Talon's, and
didst produce a money
pouch of her own. She
didst then say, "Tis
nothing, milord. I shall
show thee bravery."

Molly didst turn and say,
"Milord Chad, come anon."

Commander Chad didst
step forth and say:

"Aye milady, how can I
serve thee and our
House?"

Molly didst then say:

"I want thee to remove
thy armor and protection,
then go to the Shrine of
Compassion in Ilshenar and
slay the Ancient Wyrms
that doth lurk there."

Commander Chad didst
remove his armor and lay
it reverently at the feet
of Molly. His salute then
was talked about for
months to come for it's
unerring precision.

Mere minutes later Spider
didst return bearing a
pouch filled with the
ashes of Commander
Chad.

Molly turned to the two
men, and smiling in her
coy way, she didst say,
"That my good fellows ist
what bravery ist about."

She then didst reach for
Talon's money bag and
didst lookin inquiringly at
Baeleron.

Baeleron didst then
chuckle in his evil way.

"Tis not bravery, tis only
blind servitude. I shall
show thee bravery."

Baeleron didst clear his
throat and wast heard to
say:

"Silent Poet, a moment
of thy time."

Silent Poet didst look up
from the clutch of a
group of ladies he wast
courting all at once.

Then he didst sigh as if
under a great geas.

He didst step forward
and say, "Aye Brother?"

Baeleron didst chuckle in
his most evil way and
didst say:

"Brother Poet, go forth
and bring me the wings
of the Lord of the
Abyss"

And Silent Poet didst
then say:

"Do it thine own self, I
am too busy for thy
trifling ways. Canst thou
not see the ladies waiting
for me?"

And Baeleron didst then
say:

In Nox *Corp Por*
Corp Por *Kal Vas
Flam*

Then he didst turn to his
table companions gathering
their money pouches and
shaking the bits of Silent
Poet's remains from
them.

And Baeleron didst then
say:

"Now that ist bravery."
-Silent Poet-